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## Index to Recent American Botanical Literature.

*Autumnal Changes in Maple Leaves.*—W. K. Martin and S. B. Thomas. (Bot. Gaz., xii., pp. 78-81 ; four figures.)

*Boleti of the United States—Notes on the.*—Chas. H. Peck. (Journ. Mycol., iii., pp. 53-55.)

*Botanical Drugs—A Corrected List of the English Commercial Names of.* (Supplement to the Pharmaceutical Era, Jan., 1887.)

*Botanical Manuals for Students.*—C. E. Bessey. Amer. Nat., xxi., pp. 376-379.)

This is a very convenient list of the most useful descriptive works on all groups of plants with special reference to the needs of American students. Approximate prices are given.

*Botanical Tramp through North Carolina.*—Gerald McCarthy. (Bot. Gaz., xii., pp. 76-78.)

*Development and Distribution of Vegetation—Sketches of the.*—T. J. Burrill. (Bull. Sci. Assoc. Peoria, Ill., 1887, pp. 51, 52.)

*Dicentra Canadensis.* (Vick's Ill. Month. Mag., x., p. 152, one figure.)

*Erythronium Americanum.* (Vick's Ill. Month. Mag., x., p. 148, colored plate.)

*Flora of Peoria.*—J. T. Stewart. (Bull. Sci. Assoc. Peoria, Ill., 1887, pp. 28-33.)

A general account of the plants found in the vicinity of Peoria.

*Flora of Rhode Island—Some Notes on the.*—W. Whitman Bailey. (Proc. Newport Nat. Hist. Soc., 1885-'86, pp. 3-13.)

*Forests of North America.*—Prof. N. S. Shaler. (Scribner's Magazine, May, 1887.)

*Fungal Disease of Colocasia.*—J. H. Hart. (Bulletin of Information in regard to Agricultural Matters—I.)

Attention is called to a disease of *C. esculenta* and *C. antiquorum* which is prevalent in Jamaica.

*History of Garden Vegetables.*—E. Lewis Sturtevant. (Amer. Nat., xxi., pp. 321-333 ; continued.)

In this part Dr. Sturtevant gives notes on Australian Spinage,

(*Chenopodium auricomum*, Lind.); Balm, (*Melissa officinalis*, L.) species of *Basella* used as spinage plants; Basil, (species of *Ocimum*); and Beans, (*Phaseolus vulgaris* and *P. nana*.)

*Horticultural Terminology*.—I. L. H. Bailey, Jr. (Am. Garden, May, 1887.)

*Immigration of Animals and Plants*.—Fred. Brendel, M.D., (Bull. Sci. Assoc., Peoria, Ill., 1887, pp. 88-92.)

*Indicative Plants*.—R. W. Raymond, (Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng., St. Louis meeting, October, 1886; advance sheets.)

A very interesting paper dicussing the various plants which are supposed to be indicative of metallic minerals. Figures are given of the zinc-violet (*Viola Calaminaria*) of Europe, the "lead plant" (*Amorpha canescens*) and of *Eriogonum ovalifolium* of the Rocky Mountain region, which Dr. Raymond thinks may be destined to bear the title of "silver plant." The interesting fact is recorded that in pink-flowered plants of the *Eriogonum*, the presence of arsenic was proved by chemical analyses made by Mrs. Richards, while in yellow-flowered ones arsenic was not found.

*Leo Lesquereux*.—Sketch of, with portrait. By L. R. McCabe. (Pop. Sci. Month., xxx., pp. 835-840.)

*List of Works on North American Fungi, with the Exception of Schizomycetes, published before 1887*.—W. G. Farlow and William Trelease. (Harvard Univ. Bull. iv., pp. 444-458; to be continued.)

This is the first part of a most useful and voluminous bibliographical work, which we hope to note at greater length when it shall have been completed. The titles are under authors' names, which are arranged alphabetically.

*Local Names of Plants*.—C. F. Wheeler. (Pharm. Era., i., p. 25.)

Mr. Wheeler notes that *Cicuta maculata* is known as "Fletcher Weed," in Worcester Co., Mass., from the circumstance that in the early history of Oakham a woman named Fletcher, driven by hunger, ate some of the roots, which caused her death.

*North American Fungi—The Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries of Messrs. Ellis and Everhart's.*—C. E. Bessey. (Amer. Nat., xxi., pp. 379, 380.)

*Nova Scotian Fungi—Additions to the List of.*—J. Somers. (Proc. and Trans. Nov. Scot. Inst. Nat. Sci., vi., pp. 286-288.)  
Twenty-three species are enumerated.

*Nova Scotia—New and Rare Plants of.*—J. Somers. (Proc. and Trans. Nova Scotian Inst. Nat. Sci., vi., pp. 281, 282.)

Notes are given on *Cnicus muticus*, white-flowered *Cypripedium acaule*, *Apios tuberosa* with a very large tuber, *Solidago sempervirens* and *Polygala sanguinea*.

*Oxytropis Lamberti.* (Garden, xxxi., plate 552.)

*Pacific Coast Alders.*—C. C. Parry. (Bull. Cal. Acad. Sci., ii., pp. 351-354; reprinted.)

Dr. Parry gives a general account of the history of the American *Alni*, and concludes that *A. rhombifolia*, Nutt., of the Pacific Coast and *A. oblongifolia*, Torrey, of New Mexico, are but forms of the same species, Nuttall's name having priority.

*Pharmacognostical Notes.*—Joseph Schrenk. (American Druggist, April 1887.)

*Valeriana*, *Arnica*, *Serpentaria*, *Aconitum Napellus* and *Rhamnus Purshiana* are all remarked upon from a pharmacognostical standpoint. The two characteristic lines or ridges on the lower surface of the leaf of *Erythroxylon Coca* had been described by Hanausek and other authors as "folds" in the blade. Prof. Schrenk shows, by figuring a cross-section, that these lines consist of sub-epidermal strands of *collenchyma* cells, and suggests that they might serve as an elastic stiffening to the blade. Very curious forms of *branched* glandular hairs detected on the leaf of tobacco are described and figured. Prof. Schrenk found them rather abundantly on very young leaves, but quite sparingly on commercial tobacco.

*Photograph of Ophioglossaceæ.*

Mr. George E. Davenport has sent us a beautiful photograph of American Ophioglossaceæ, taken from a set prepared by him for the Middlesex Institute. He is willing to furnish copies to botanists at 35 cents each.

*Pinus macrocarpa*. (Coulter's Pine.) (Garden, xxxi., p. 378; two figures.)

*Plant Heliostat*.—Byron D. Halsted. (Bot. Gaz., xii., pp. 82, 83.)

Professor Halsted describes the curious habit of the leaves of *Malva borealis* in Southern California of following the sun in its daily course, always presenting their upper surfaces to the light. In cloudy weather this heliotropism is not nearly so marked.

*Plants Collected in and around Truro, during the Summer of 1885—Supplementary List of*.—G. G. Campbell. (Proc. and Trans. Nova Scotian Inst. Nat. Sci., vi., pp. 283-285.)  
53 species are enumerated.

*Plants of the Island of Rhode Island—Native*.—II. (Proc. Newport Nat. Hist. Soc., 1885-6, pp. 13-15.)

*Rhamnus—Californian Species of*. (Pharm. Era., i., p. 150, from a paper by Jas. G. Steele in Pacific Rec. Med. and Surg.)

*Scrophularia aquatica and S. nodosa—The Inflorescence, Floral Structure and Fertilization of*.—T. Wemyss Fulton. (Trans. and Proc. Bot. Soc., Edinburgh, xvi., pp. 379-389, one plate.)

*Tomato Rot*. (Amer. Nat., xxi., pp. 380, 381.)

The editor reviews Dr. Arthur's paper in the Fifth Annual Report of the U. S. Agricultural Experiment Station.

*Ustilagineæ and Uredinæ—New Species of*.—J. B. Ellis and B. M. Everhart. (Journ. Mycol., iii., pp. 55-57.)  
Eleven new species are described.

*Vegetacion sobre las altas Montañas de Mexico, (The Vegetation of the high Mountains of Mexico)*. Henry de Saussure. (La Naturaleza, vii., pp. 333-349.)

This very interesting paper is a comparison of the vegetation on the volcanic cones of Mexico with that on the Alps, and some very singular conclusions are reached:

1st.—The forests extend to almost 5,000 feet greater altitude in Mexico than on the Alps and end abruptly without straggling or dwarfing. The distance between the timber line and the limit of perpetual snows in each is about 2,500 feet.

2d.—Herbaceous plants do not extend more than 4,000 feet higher than those on the Alps, and cease at the snow line.

3d.—The lichens do not reach any greater altitude, if as great, as they do on Mont Blanc.

After discussing the various meteorological differences and their effect on the vegetation, the author concludes that the causes which limit the extension upward of the herbaceous and cryptogamic vegetation in Mexico are æstival rather than hyemal.

*Volutella Ellisii*.—A. B. Langlois. (Journ. Mycol., iii., p. 57.)

*Wisconsin Orchids*.—John H. Dunlap. (Gard. Month., xxix., pp. 150, 151.)

Notes on the species observed by the author with especial reference to their cultivation.

### Botanical Notes.

*Berberidærum Japoniæ Conspectus*. In the Journal of the Linnæan Society, Vol. xxii., pp. 422-437, Tokutaro Ito presents an arrangement of the Japanese Berberidaceæ. *Caulophyllum thalictroides*, Michx., appears to be as abundant in Japan as here; the presence of *Podophyllum peltatum*, L., is not satisfactorily authenticated, though another species (*P. Japonicum*, T. Ito) is found; the Japanese *Achlys* is referred to *A. triphylla*, D C., var. *Japonica*, Ito, and a beautiful plate of it is given.

*On the Differentiation of the Tissues in Fungi*. Mr. George Massee, in the Journal of the Royal Microscopical Society for April, 1887, describes and illustrates the structure of several Hymenomycetes. He finds in several species of *Polyporus* a well-marked mechanical sheath in the stipe, about half a line in thickness, composed of densely matted hyphæ with extremely thick walls. This mechanical support is expanded in the pileus to form a number of branched radiating ribs. The latex tubes of *Lactarius* and *Russula* are described, and the conclusion reached that this tissue is undoubtedly connected with nutrition, in the transportation of food material, as glycogen. The cystidia met with in the hymenium are regarded by Mr. Massee as only the ends of latex tubes.

*Karl Theodor Mohr*. A biographical notice of this eminent